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 - (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **POSSIS MEDICAL, INC.**; 9055 Evergreen Blvd. NW, Minneapolis, MN 55433 (US).
 - (72) Inventors; and
 - (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **RILES, John, C.** [US/US]; 1400 Laurel Avenue, W1003, Minneapolis, MN 55403 (US). **BALL, Douglas, J.** [US/US]; 10751 Redwood Street NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55433 (US). **BONNETTE, Michael, J.** [US/US]; 2733 2nd Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408 (US). **THOR, Eric, J.** [US/US]; 1707 Glenview Avenue, Arden Hills, MN 55112 (US). **TESCHENDORF, John, L.** [US/US]; 6208 Hollow Lane, Lino Lakes, MN 55014 (US). **LE, Hieu, V.** [US/US]; 10479 Abbott Drive North, Brooklyn Park, MN 55433 (US).
 - (74) Agent: **SCHRAMM, David**; MEDRAD, INC., One Medrad Drive, Indianola, PA 15051 (US).
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26 February 2009

(54) Title: INFUSION FLOW GUIDEWIRE SYSTEM

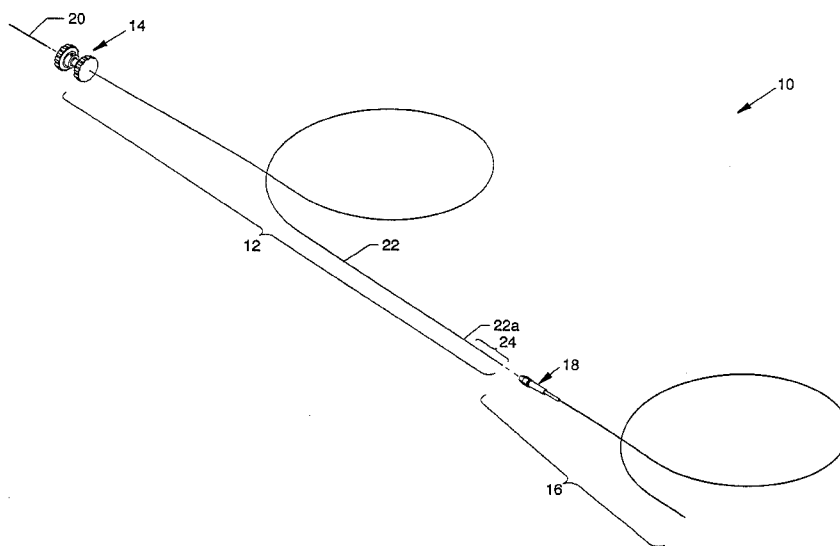


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: An infusion flow guidewire system including a delivery sheath and an infusion flow guidewire. The minimal cross section flexible infusion flow guidewire includes a nitinol hypotube, a flexible tip and distally located rearwardly directed orifices for infusion of fibrinolytics and for introduction of high pressure fluids for maceration and rearwardly directed flow of thrombus debris located in tortuous small sized vessels. Apparatus, some of which is removably attachable, is provided for grasping members of the invention for rotational torqueing and for longitudinal actuation along and within the vasculature.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2008/066646

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(8) - A16M 5/178 (2008.04) USPC - 7604/164.13 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC																									
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC(8) - A16M 5/178 (2008.04) USPC - 604/164.13 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) MicroPatent, googlepatent																									
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT																									
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category*</th> <th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th> <th>Relevant to claim No.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>US 6,224,570 B1 (LE et al) 01 May 2001 (01.05.2001) entire document</td> <td>18-22,25-26,30-41,55,57-59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>---</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td></td> <td>1-17, 23-24, 27-29, 42-54, 56, 60-62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 6,355,016 B1 (BAGAOISAN et al) 12 March 2002 (12.03.2002) entire document</td> <td>1-6,7-17,42-54,56,60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 2004/0039310 A1 (BURKETT) 26 February 2004 (26.02.2004) entire document</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 6,241,744 B1 (IMRAN et al) 05 June 2001 (05.06.2001) entire document</td> <td>27-29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 2006/0074318 A1 (AHMED et al) 06 April 2006 (06.04.2006) entire document</td> <td>23-24, 49-54, 60-62</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	X	US 6,224,570 B1 (LE et al) 01 May 2001 (01.05.2001) entire document	18-22,25-26,30-41,55,57-59	---			Y		1-17, 23-24, 27-29, 42-54, 56, 60-62	Y	US 6,355,016 B1 (BAGAOISAN et al) 12 March 2002 (12.03.2002) entire document	1-6,7-17,42-54,56,60	Y	US 2004/0039310 A1 (BURKETT) 26 February 2004 (26.02.2004) entire document	6	Y	US 6,241,744 B1 (IMRAN et al) 05 June 2001 (05.06.2001) entire document	27-29	Y	US 2006/0074318 A1 (AHMED et al) 06 April 2006 (06.04.2006) entire document	23-24, 49-54, 60-62	<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/>
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* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family																								
Date of the actual completion of the international search 29 November 2008	Date of mailing of the international search report 09 DEC 2008																								
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201	Authorized officer: Blaine R. Copenheaver PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774																								

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2008/066646

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

Group I, claims 1-17, drawn to an infusion flow guidewire

Group II, claims 18-62, drawn to an infusion flow guidewire system

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.